



Coventry City Council

Council Meeting

14th September 2010

Booklet 3

Answers to Written Questions

1.	<p>QUESTION SUBMITTED BY: Councillor Nellist</p> <p>TO BE ANSWERED BY: Councillor Mutton</p>
<p>TEXT OF QUESTION:</p> <p>If he will make arrangements for the minutes of any outside body which receives funding from, or shares funding with, the Council to be taken at the next appropriate Cabinet Member or Cabinet meeting so as to allow the decisions of that body to be brought at the earliest opportunity into the Council's political management process?</p> <p>Answer: Consideration will be given to the request. However further information will be required to enable officers to identify particular organisations, otherwise the process would be too unmanageable.</p>	

2.	<p>QUESTION SUBMITTED BY: Councillor Nellist</p> <p>TO BE ANSWERED BY: Councillor Mrs Bigham</p>
<p>TEXT OF QUESTION:</p> <p>If she will follow the example of the Cabinet Member for Housing, Sustainability and Local Infrastructure, in relation to the Supporting People Commissioning Board, and arrange to receive a report of the minutes of the Enterprising Coventry Partnership Board at her next Cabinet Member meeting following each of the ECPB's meetings, so as to enable that Board's decisions to be part of the Council's political management arrangements?</p> <p>Answer: I will ensure that the minutes from the Enterprising Coventry Board meetings go to my future Cabinet Member meetings.</p>	

3.	<p>QUESTION SUBMITTED BY: Councillor Nellist</p> <p>TO BE ANSWERED BY: Councillor Mrs Bigham</p>
<p>TEXT OF QUESTION:</p> <p>If she will institute a full derelict sites register for the city to include sites in public, private and mixed ownership?</p> <p>Answer: Please see attached letter.</p>	

4.

QUESTION SUBMITTED BY: Councillor Nellist

TO BE ANSWERED BY: Councillor Townshend

TEXT OF QUESTION:

If he is satisfied that withdrawing neighbourhood management, and visible Council support, from communities already disadvantaged and under pressure is a good idea in a recession and shortly in advance of demands for massive cuts in public service provision?

Answer:

I am well aware that the expected impact of the Coalition Government's October Spending Review could be catastrophic for the people of Coventry – especially for those who are most disadvantaged.

This council is doing its best to prepare for this onslaught including re-focusing activity on our priorities and making sure that services are delivered efficiently.

I am not interested in presiding over cuts that would disadvantage and disempower those communities that most need our support and need to be more powerful in determining their own future.

I inherited a review of the Neighbourhood Management service which is, of course, the successor of Area Co-ordination, the original aim of which was to empower and engage local communities in identified priority neighbourhoods, and to address and improve issues of inequality.

This service has been good at engaging with local communities and addressing service issues within the city council in specific services. It has not been as successful as any of us would have hoped in addressing fundamental issues of inequality, particularly around education, employment, training, health and community safety. The revised proposals that officers will bring forward later this year will seek to address these issues in the most disadvantaged parts of our city.

This project is not just about saving money but it is about obtaining value for money. It is possible, but not yet agreed, that we may end up spending more money in some areas than we do at present. We must target our resources to good effect in the areas of greatest need.

This Labour administration does not intend to preside over a culture of genteel decline in Neighbourhood Management. We are consulting. We are listening. We intend to be change-shifters, and bring about greater fairness and opportunities for those who need and deserve it most.

We in the Labour Group are committed to ensure that the most disadvantaged people in Coventry are protected from the worst of the Conservative and Liberal Democrat cuts. This means focusing our Neighbourhood Management activity in the areas and communities in Coventry that need it most; ensuring continuity of service delivery to the most vulnerable, and concentrating on the things that are most important to local people.

The consultation period on proposals for the Neighbourhood Management service review closed on Friday 3 September 2010. A report setting out revised proposals, including changes made following this consultation, is currently being prepared by officers for consideration by the Cabinet and will be available shortly.

I look forward to discussing these proposals once the report has been finalised.



Councillor Nellist

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Directorate**
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8 September 2010

Dear Councillor Nellist

Council Meeting 14 September 2010

Question 3, Text of question: "If she will institute a full derelict sites register for the city to include sites in public, private and mixed ownership"

Your question does not make clear why the council should institute and maintain a register of derelict sites which is not a statutory requirement on the Council. I do not intend to institute a separate derelict sites register for Coventry, but will make available the results of the Council's response to the annual West Midlands Derelict Land Survey compiled in April 2010.

This survey is completed by the Council as part of the regional land use monitoring programme.

It uses the definition of derelict land, as

- land so damaged by previous industrial or other development that it is incapable of beneficial use without treatment, where any treatment includes any of the following: demolition, clearing of fixed structures or foundation and levelling.
- Abandoned and unoccupied buildings in an advanced state of repair

But excludes

- Land damaged by development which has been or is being restored for agricultural, forestry, woodland or other open countryside use
- Land damaged by a previous development where the remains of any structure or activity have blended into the landscape in the process of time, and where there is clear reason that could outweigh the reuse of the site

The Survey returned by the Council identified approximately 25ha of vacant or derelict land comprising the following principle sites:

*Director of City Services and
Development*
Martin Yardley
Head of Service
Nigel Clews
Assistant Director Property Asset
Management

PAO Description	Street	Ward	SiteArea (Ha)
LAND AT 15 TO 41	HALE STREET AND 33 TO 37 TRINITY STREET	ST MICHAELS	0.27
LAND AT 28	LONDON ROAD	ST MICHAELS	0.14
LAND BETWEEN BUTTS AND	YORK STREET	ST MICHEALS	0.12
1 TO 26 VICTORIA BUILDINGS	CORPORATION STREET	ST MICHAELS	0.14
CENTRAL DEPOT	FOLESHILL ROAD	FOLESHILL	4.00
FORMER GAS WORKS CLUB	MIDLEBOROUGH ROAD	SHERBOURNE	0.75
LAND OPPOSITE BROOKLYN ROAD	FOLESHILL ROAD	FOLESHILL	0.75
FORMER NURSERY	POOLE ROAD	BABLAKE	0.30
FOMER OFFICE BUILDINGS	WHITLEY VILLAGE	CHEYLSEMORE	0.65
WISTARIA LODGE	EARLSDON AVENUE SOUTH	EARLSDON	0.60
LAND AT 19 TO 31 AND 31 TO 39	ST PATRICKS ROAD AND FRIARS ROAD	ST MICHAELS	0.32
FORMER ACCORDIS/ACCETATE WORKS	FOLESHILL ROAD / OLD CHURCH ROAD	FOLESHILL	15.50
STORAGE SITE	SWAN LANE	ST MICHAELS	0.64
FORMER DAIRY SITE	SWAN LANE	ST MICHAELS	0.39
FORMER GARAGE BLOCK	BRAMSTON CRESCENT	WESTWOOD	0.10
Totals			24.67

In addition the following sites amounting to a further 124ha with the benefit of planning permission or planning allocation, would also qualify as derelict land, comprising the following principle sites:

PAO Description	Street	Ward	SiteArea (Ha)
EAST SIDE OF DEPOT	GROSVENOR ROAD	EARLSDON	1.30
RITZ CINEMA	WINDMILL ROAD	LONGFORD	1.63
FORMER DAIRY	WASHBROOK LANE	Bablake	0.13
FORMER CHEYLESMORE PUBLIC HOUSE	DAVENTRY ROAD	CHEYLESMORE	0.20
ROSE PUBLIC HOUSE	LOCKHURST LANE	FOLESHILL	0.50
CROW IN THE OAK	LOCKHURST LANE	FOLESHILL	0.12
FORMER TEXACO GARAGE	ALLESLEY OLD ROAD	WHOBBERLEY	0.11
MARLISSA DRIVE INDUSTRIAL PARK	LYTHALLS LANE	HOLBROOK	0.20
			3.38

NORTHERN PART OF FORMER AGCO	BANNER LANE	Woodlands	16.00
LAND REAR OF 1121 AND 1127	FOLESHILL ROAD	FOLESHILL	0.17
NEW CENTURY PARK	BRINDLE AVENUE	Lower Stoke	20.25
LAND WEST OF WICKMANS DRIVE	WICKMANS DRIVE	Westwood	2.50
LAND AT	BEAKE AVENUE FORMER DUNLOP WAREHOUSE	HOLBROOKS	4.70
Former Jaguar Site	Land between Browns Lane and Coundon Wedge Drive	Bablake	28.64
Technical training college The Maxwell Centre	Upper York St	Sherbourne	1.30
Former Whitley Pumping Station	London Road	Binley and Willenhall	0.80
Land at Former Green Man Public House	Hall Green Road	Longford	0.20
37	FAR GOSFORD STREET	ST MICHAELS	0.01
PARAGON PARK	STONEY STANTON ROAD	FOLESHILL	24.00
EDGEWICK PARK	PHOENIX WAY	FOLESHILL	2.70
LAND AT	DEASY ROAD	ST MICHAELS	1.01
FORMER BUTTS COLLEGE SITE	THE BUTTS	Sherbourne	2.00
Land at junction of	Well Street, Chapel Street and Bishop Street	ST MICHAELS	0.76
Land at Bond Street	Hill Street, Ringway Hill Cross and Upper Well Street	ST MICHAELS	0.80
Former St Marys RC School,	Lansdowne Street	ST MICHAELS	0.80
Former Peugeot Factory	Humber Road	Lower Stoke	10.00
Total			124.205

NB: Information in the above tables is a reflection of the position at 1st April 2010.

On this basis approximately 2.15% of the developable land in the city could be classified as derelict.

Yours sincerely

Linda Bigham
Cabinet Member (City Development)